

Hilo misses jolly Captain Lake.

WAIANUENUE street looks like a bad dream.

How godforsaken and doleful doth the street of Waiannue appear.

WHAT can be done to resuscitate wireless telegraphy for the Islands.

AMONG other things badly needed by Hilo is a joker whose jokes would not have to be diagramed to reveal the point.

IN THE excitement of floods Hilo citizens should not forget to prod Mercer of Nebraska occasionally about that Federal building.

VOLCANO MARSHALL likes the Philippines. If he didn't he'd perhaps be a bridge in the Hilo district, condemned for everything except light traffic.

WITH Front street intersected by an impassable stream and Volcano bridge in a precarious condition, communication with Waiakea has been almost closed.

It does not matter which of the European nations tried during the Spanish war to secure an Eastern Coalition against the United States. Such a plan was not on the cards of Destiny and Uncle Sam bears no malice.

AT LAST accounts there were 250,000 British soldiers employed in South Africa, in garrisoning the country and chasing from five to eight thousand guerrillas. That the war is waning rapidly is shown in the reduced estimates of its cost to \$5,000,000 a week.

WHAT would Hilo be without the Kinau? The failure of Beckley's flagship to arrive this week brought a keen sense of disappointment to every Hiloite. The storm here was fierce, but it must have been worse at Honolulu to prevent the plucky Island boat from putting out to sea.

THE Turkish brigands who abducted Miss Stone, the missionary, have been wretchedly businesslike in their methods all the way through. But now that the ransom has been raised, the brigands demand additional security that they may have ten days in which to escape after delivering up their fair hostage.

A KANSAS, "Nancy Jane," "Calamity Howler" Populist or Anarchist turned loose in Hilo just now would consider himself in Paradise. He could flute the lute of discontent with the government on a wailing instrument of a thousand strings. He could have so many things to howl about that he would fain shed tears of happiness. Alas for the poor hayseed from Kansas, who never had this chance to howl for reform!

#### ANDREWS' FINE.

The sentencing of Sheriff Andrews \$100 for contempt of court was not the outgrowth of any personal feeling or clash between the Sheriff and the Fourth Circuit Judge. It was not a constructive difference or a constructive contempt. It is a plain case of difference of opinion as to the duties and responsibilities of a Sheriff under the law. In no other Courts than in Hawaii are fines collected and remitted to a Treasurer by an official who has not the further duty of satisfying on the records of the Court the judgment against the man who paid the fine. If there are local laws which make it improper for the money penalties imposed by a Court to be looked after and accounted under the direction of the Court, then the laws should be changed.

#### IF WE BUT KNEW.

The latest news Hilo has had from the outside world left San Francisco twenty-one days ago. The next papers will tell of many things. It will be nice to learn what Wilcox has been doing in Congress; how the American people are wining and dining Prince Henry; how Roosevelt is getting on with the Hawaiian governorship. We will also learn, perhaps, that peace articles have been signed concluding the Boer war; that dirt has commenced to fly on the Isthmian canal and that an appropriation has been made for a Federal building at Hilo.

#### A FINE TRIO.

Last week all eyes were, or should have been, turned on Congress. In no other place in the world could one see so much that was interesting and instructive, says Public Opinion. Three senators highly distinguished themselves; Senator Dubois, of Idaho, by referring to General Wheaton as "probably some charity boy appointed to West Point by a senator or representative and since supported by the government," and Senator Money, by his formula for the solution of the Philippine problem—"Let them go to the devil and take care of themselves." When it can fairly be said that such expressions are characteristic of the Democratic side of the senate, it is no wonder that people in general are quite reconciled to the fact that "the hypocritical, commercialized, and damnable Republicans"—Tillman's words in the senate last week—are in control of the government.

#### WHO'S TO BLAME?

The distress in the South Hilo district on account of impassable roads and broken down bridges is a fact that should be contemplated by public officials with feelings of dismay and self condemnation. Front street is closed. By reason of the unsafe condition of the bridge on Volcano street, no heavy traffic may venture by that way. To the north, the dangling bridge over Pukihae gulch stops heavy travel to the country Hamakua way. The Kaumana bridge shuts off travel in another direction. Hilo town is almost without communication with the Waiakea district and the Kinau wharf. Hilo town is isolated. Her streets are ripped up like a plowed field.

Road Boards are composed of men who are trained to withstand the shafts of criticism. They usually get it from both sides. The people howl at them and their superiors in office growl at them. But the Road Board in this city and district can not be held at fault for the deplorable state of the streets and roads. The damage caused by the November freshet put the Hilo Road Board on its guard and caused it to bring the details of the districts needs to the attention of the Department of Public Works. The needs were so apparent that Superintendent Boyd at once came over and brought with him an authorization for \$10,000 to be expended in making roads passable and bridges safe. The Road Board at once began the construction of a big ditch at the head of Waiannue street to save that thoroughfare from being torn up at just such a time as has been experienced this past week. The work had proceeded rapidly until in a short letter Superintendent Boyd said that the money he had promised Hilo could not be had. The work stopped. The flood came and now it will cost the Territory more to clean up Waiannue street than it would have cost to dig the protecting trench. At the time Messrs. Boyd and Campbell were here they saw with their own eyes the numerous weak spots in bridges and roads and promised early assistance and relief. Their promises were not worth two whoops in Hilo and the people here now are sweating it out in a state of general business suspension.

The story is told, we do not vouch for its truth, that the neglect that has been shown Hilo by the

Department of Public Works is the result of the Hilo Boards refusal to pay Boyd and Campbell's traveling expenses when they made their junketing trip through this district. If that is so, then the Road Board is to be commended for saving \$250 of good money.

MEMBERS of the Executive Committee for the Washington banquet have inquired whether the TRIBUNE intended to cast aspersions in their direction in the "Shetland Pony" article of last week. The disclaimer of any such intention will not be still in the editor's breast. It yearns for expression and wants to see itself in print. Here it is. There is but one Shetland Pony. The article in question was solely in its honor. No reflection was intended. Honesty of purpose is forever being entangled in feeble and limping methods of expression. We shall renew our studies in grammar and English rhetoric.

#### ASSIMILATION OF FOREIGNERS.

"No other subject in the larger politics of modern times deserves more earnest attention than the problem of assimilating the foreign element in our population," says John T. Buchanan, in an article in the February Forum. "Unless an intelligent effort is made for the protection of our national ideals, the United States will be in a fair way to become un-Americanized; and sooner or later the question will become not how we may assimilate the foreign element, but how we may discern traces of our original government and institutional spirit. The native population in some parts of our country today is practically saturated by the foreign element, and no more of that element can be absorbed under existing conditions without a dangerous precipitation."

Mr. Buchanan's remedy for this state of affairs is compulsory education for all, and the requirement of educational qualification of all who claim naturalization and the franchise. Summing up the arguments in favor of this remedy, Mr. Buchanan says: "Compulsory education will give to the foreigner a chance of obtaining a thorough understanding of the English language; a fair knowledge of our government, and of the means of governing himself; and last, but not least, it will make him feel that he is the peer of all if he conducts himself as a true American citizen."

#### Piano Club Recital.

The March meeting of the Piano Club was held at the home of Mrs. C. C. Kennedy Wednesday. The following program was rendered:

Kinderstricke No. 2.....Mendelssohn  
Miss Richardson.  
Minuet } Duets.....Tours  
Romance }  
Mrs. & Miss Severance.  
Hunting Song.....Mendelssohn  
Alvah Scott.  
Shepherds all and Maidens Fair.....  
Ethelbert Nevins  
Mrs. Turner.  
Reading—Music of Shakespeare's Life.....  
Lanier  
Mrs. Furneaux.  
C Minor Sonata.....Beethoven  
Miss Potter.  
Tam O'Shanter.....Warren  
Mrs. Marsh.  
Duet—Polonaise Militaire.....Chopin  
Mrs. Tracy and Mrs. Carl Smith.  
Nocturne.....Chopin  
Love Song.....Paderewski  
Song without Words.....Saint Saens  
Mrs. Lewis.  
Minuet.....Paderewski  
Barber of Seville.....  
Played by Mr. Ronald Kennedy on the  
Pianola.

#### Batabela Rebels Annihilated.

Antwerp, Feb. 15.—A steamer arriving here from the Congo reports that a fresh revolt recently occurred in the Wells district and that the Batabela rebels have been annihilated.

London, Feb. 15.—The Lord Chief Justice, Baron Alverstone, refused today to reopen the case of Poulett, in which Viscount Hinton, who at one time played an organ in the streets of London, sought to oust his stepbrother, the youthful Earl Poulett, from the family estates.

#### Hakalau Flumes Down.

Hakalau mill closed down Wednesday because of the storm. The two cane flumes which feed the big mill were washed away in the flood and until they are repaired cane grinding will be at a standstill. Several tons of cane was washed out to sea when the flumes broke.

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